

Remarks

The above amendments and these remarks are responsive to the Office Action dated January 13, 2005. With entry of this amendment, claims 1-20 are pending.

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1, 5, 10 and 11 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,701,895. Claims 2-4, 6, and 8-20 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,701,895. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, but nevertheless amend the claims as indicated above. In view of the amendments above, and the remarks below, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and allowance of the pending claims.

Claims 1, 5, and 7

Claims 1, 5, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1, 5, 10 and 11 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,701,895. In the Office Action, the Examiner states that the invention is drawn to identical subject matter. In order to facilitate prosecution, Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 7. Claim 5 depends from claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 5, and 7 are not identical to claims 1, 5, 10 and 11 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,701,895 or any combination thereof and are therefore allowable.

Claims 2-4, 6, and 8-20

Claims 2-4, 6, and 8-20 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,701,895.


Applicants hereby file a Terminal Disclaimer with this response. In view of the Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-4, 6, and 8-20 are allowable.

Based on the foregoing comments, the above-identified application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If any further amendment is necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable condition, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact the undersigned by fax or telephone at the number listed below.

Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Amendment, along with any other costs, to Deposit Account No. 06-1510. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1505. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

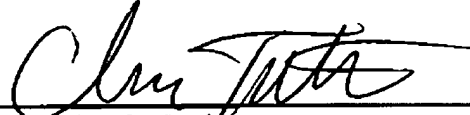
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306 on April 13, 2005.



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Respectfully submitted,

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